(a) whether it is a fact that the Silk Board is taking loan from the World Bank for development of sericulture in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

A National Sericulture Project has been formulated by the Central Silk Board in collaboration with State Govts. The project is proposed to be implemented with the World Bank assistance. A Pre-Appraisal Mission from the Bank is presently in India to discuss the details of this project.

**LIC Scheme under international year for Shelter**

*296. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has submitted a scheme under 'International year for shelter' for the people at large;

(b) if so, what are the details of this scheme and when it was submitted to Government for clearance;

(c) whether the Corporation has assessed the benefit of such a scheme to its policy-holders, existing and prospective; and

(d) whether there will be any reservation in the scheme for the employees of the Life Insurance Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**गंगा नदी के बाढ़ के जल का रूख यमुना नदी की ओर मोड़ा जाना**

*297. **श्री रशीद मसूद :**
**श्री अजीत सिंह :**

क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गंगा नदी के अतिरिक्त बाढ़ के जल को यमुना नदी में डालने के संबंध में अध्ययन करने के लिए एक पैनल गठित किया गया था ;

(ख) क्या इस पैनल का प्रतिवेदन सरकार को प्राप्त हो गया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है तथा सरकार ने इस संबंध में कौन-कौन सी योजनायें तयार की हैं ; और

(घ) इनके कब तक लाग् किये जाने की संभावना है ?

**जल संसाधन मंत्री (श्री दिनेश सिंह) :** (क) और (ख) जी हां ।

(ग) और (घ) 12-5-83 को गठित की गई इस समिति ने अपनी रिपोर्ट मार्च, 1986 में प्रस्तुत कर दी थी । समिति ने यह कहा कि समिति के विभिन्न सदस्यों द्वारा परिकलनों में की गई भिन्न-भिन्न मान्यताओं को देखते हुए हरिद्वार अथवा नरोरा के निकट गंगा में अधिशेष बाढ़ जल की उपलब्धता पर किसी सहमत निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचना संभव नहीं था।

**Smuggling of Gold in Liquid form**

*298. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI SHARAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gold smugglers have adopted a new technique of smuggling gold into the country in liquified form;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the quantity (with value) of such

gold seized at various places in the country so far;

(c) whether any arrests have been made in this connection; if so, the number thereof stating their links identified within the country and the country from where gold in the liquified form is smuggled; and

(d) what steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House (*See* below).

(d) The new *modus operandi* discovered has been circulated and all the anti-smuggling agencies have been alerted.

**Statement**

Two seizures of gold in liquid form have been made recently. The details of the two cases are as follws:—

(i) On 22nd August, 1987, liquid gold contained in two shampoo containers were seized at the Madras airport from an Indian national who had arrived from Singapore. The total quantity of gold recovered was 210 grammes valued at Rs. 65,000 (approximately). The passenger was arrested;

(ii) On 26th January, 1988, gold in liquid form contained in four plastic bottle containers were seized at Sahar Airport, Bombay, from an Indian national who had arrived from Dubai. The aggregate weight of the liquid was 6,550 grammes. The quantity and value of the gold contained in the liquid will be known only after the gold is recovered. Two persons have been arrested.

**Fire incidents in the Capital**

*299. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major fire-incidents reported in Delhi/New Delhi during the period from 1st January, 1986 to 31st December, 1987;

(b) the number of incidents in which investigation committees were constituted and the details of their recommendations;

(c) the recommendations implemented by Government so far;

(d) whether after each major fire incident, fresh committee is constituted to investigate the cause of fire;

(e) what are the reasons for not constituting any permanent Committee including therein some Members of Parliament of both the Houses; and

(f) by when Government propose to constitute such a Committee?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (f) There has been one incident of major fire and 9 incidents of serious fire in the capital during the period from 1.1.1986 to 31.12.1987. In the incident of major fire which occurred at Hotel Siddarth Continental on the 23.1.1986, 37 persons lost their lives. The Delhi Administration appointed a Commission headed by Justice D.R. Khanna to inquire into the incident. The report of the Khanna Commission of Inquiry alongwith the Memorandum of Action Taken on the various recommendations made by the Commission was laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on the 18th November, 1986. The fire incident which took place in Ansal Bhavan on 29.6.1987 was classified as a serious fire and a magisterial inquiry was ordered. The report of the Inquiry Officer has recently been received and has been accepted by the Delhi Administration.

Incident of major fire in the capital are not so frequent as to justify the constitution of a permanent Committee to inquire into the cause of fire. The Delhi Administration, however, invariably order an inquiry into any major fire incident.

*300.[Transferred to the 23rd March, 1988]